

## REPORT ON INFORMATION COLLECTED CONCERNING APPLICANT

Under section 60835 of title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, the Bureau of State Audits is responsible for collecting information concerning applicants for the Citizens Redistricting Commission that is needed by the Applicant Review Panel to perform its responsibilities. This is a report by Bureau staff in compliance with that responsibility.

Name of Applicant: Charles C. Turner.

Information: In the "Activities" section of his supplemental application, Applicant reported that he has been a member of the Human Resources Commission of the City of Chico since 2003, served as its Vice Chairman in 2004, and served as its Chairman in 2005 and 2006. Bureau staff asked Applicant for more information about his service on the Human Resources Commission. Applicant responded that he was appointed by the Chico City Council, and his current term expires on October 27, 2010. According to the website for the City of Chico, the Human Resources Commission promotes diversity by monitoring, reviewing, and evaluating the employment policies and practices of the City of Chico and making recommendations to the City Council and providing a forum for community members to discuss issues related to human rights and relations. Although California Constitution, article XXI, section 2, subdivision (c)(6) prohibits a member of the Citizens Redistricting Commission from serving in an appointive local public office for a period of five years beginning on the date of appointment to the Commission, it does not appear that Applicant's position on the Human Resources Commission qualifies as an appointive local public office as that term is defined in California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 60804.1. This is because the Human Resources Commission lacks decision making authority. Accordingly, Applicant would not be prohibited from continuing to serve as a member of the Human Resources Commission if he is appointed to serve as a member of the Citizens Redistricting Commission..

Research by staff revealed that Applicant has written some published works on politics, but these works appear to be nonpartisan in nature and not directly related to redistricting. Staff found that Applicant wrote: *The Politics of Minor Concerns: American Indian Policy and Congressional Dynamics* (2005); *Understanding American Government* (5<sup>th</sup> edition, 2009); and co-authored *Introduction to American Government* (2002)..

Staff discovered that California State University, Chico, where Applicant serves as a political science professor, has an online system for students to evaluate their professors in a rather public manner. Staff examined the evaluations for Applicant, and while he had a few detractors, most of the evaluations were positive, and staff did not observe any pattern to the comments that would reflect poorly on Applicants ability to serve as a member of the Citizens Redistricting Commission..

In the “Activities” section of his supplemental application, Applicant reported membership in the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). Staff asked if he has taken up any advocacy issues as a member of the ACLU. Applicant said he pays his yearly dues to the organization and once attended a dinner the ACLU hosted, but he has not been involved in any of the organization’s advocacy efforts.

Staff contacted Dr. Gayle E. Hutchinson, the author of one of Applicant’s letters of recommendation, to confirm the information provided in the letter and receive any additional information that may be relevant. Dr. Hutchinson confirmed the information in the letter and added that Applicant is “fair, measured, and examines all aspects of a questions.” Staff asked Dr. Hutchinson about her statement: “Based on comments that I have read, students appreciate that Dr. Turner is extremely knowledgeable in his field, uses instructional technology in course delivery, and treats all students respectfully and fairly.” Dr. Hutchinson said she used the evaluations Dr. Turner’s students at California State University, Chico, had turned in. She said that unlike public websites that allow the anonymous rating of professors and are difficult to validate, these evaluations are reliable and take into consideration a range of eight different measurements related to the professor’s classroom performance. Dr. Hutchinson provided staff evaluation ratings showing Applicant’s average ratings for each of his courses ranging frequently from 4.2 to 4.8, on a scale of 1-5.

Recommendation: None.

Name and Title of Person Submitting Report: Steven Benito Russo, Chief of Investigations

Report Date: September 19, 2010